and how do these compare with norms and actual consumption/ losses in other countries; and

(c) what measures have been taken to reduce oil consumption and losses and the wide variations in these amongst different companies and what have the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUEM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) Fuel (oil usage) and loss expressed as percentage weight on crude thruput varies from refinery to refinery. This is due to factors such as refinery complexity types of crude oil processed, product mix, product quality, levels of thruputs, severity of operation, vintage of technology/equipment and degree of integration of various process units with respect to energy conservation. The actual fuel (oil usage) & loss of Indian refineries is generally lower than the standard norms.

(b) and (c) The actual fuel & loss for various refineries during the last three years vis-a-vis standard norms is given in the annexure *[See Appendix 176, Annexure No. 32]*

Oil Usage (Fuel) & Loss depends on various factors and therefore, vary for each refinery. Hence not comparable with the refineries abroad in general.

Various measures undertaken at the refineries for energy conservation include adoption on modern pinchtechnology for heat optimisation in heat exchangers, replacement of oil inefficent furnaces with modern high efficiency furnaces, installation of digital distributed control and advance control systems, automation of despatches using PD meters and improved refinery maintenance practices etc.

Indo-Iran Gas Pipeline

605. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN:
SHRI SANATAN BISI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made so far towards the laying of gas pipeline from Iran to India via Pakistan;

(b) the stand of Pakistan Government vis-a-vis Indian Government and agencies involved in this project; and

(c) the steps being taken to accelerate the progress of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) The feasibility study for the Iran-India natural gas pipeline project has been awarded to a Consortium led by M/s. PLE of Germany. The Consortium has taken up the feasibility study.

(b) The consent of the Government of Pakistan to carry out the route survey is awaited.

(c) The Government of Iran has taken up the matter with the Government of Pakistan.

Modernisation of State Roads as National Highways

606. SHRI BHAGBAN MAJHI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received proposal for upgradation of some State Roads in different States as National Highways;

(b) if so, the State from where such proposals have been received during the 8th Five Year Plan;

(c) the details of the proposals submitted by different State Governments in that regard; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI M. RAJASEKARA MURTHY): (a) Yes. Sir.

(b) to (d) Various State Governments have submitted about 135 proposals aggregating to about 39,400 km. for being declared as National Highways during VIII Plan. A Statement indicating statewise detail is given below.